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Tourism splash

High season has been delivering for some Douglas Shire tourism operators hit by a slow start to the year as the industry continues to work to recover lost ground since Covid-19.

And operators across the district spoken to by Newsport are hoping growth will continue for the next few months following several setbacks this year.

Continued Page 6



Cassowary Falls tour guides Katja Petrovic, Bruce Morwood and Marisabel Beretta at the popular destination. Picture: Shaun Hollis

Wonga Beach resort plan given preliminary approval - P3

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Industrial estate all go

Shaun Hollis

The final design for a new \$1.2m 13-lot industrial estate on Beor Street at Craiglie has been approved by Douglas Shire Council this month.

Originally conceived last year as a 17-lot site by private development company KAN Developments, which is headed up by local businesspeople including Krystal DeMenna, the council planners ticked off on 13 lots following negotiations with the group.

"The engineering design has been revised and the number of lots reduced from 17 to 13 by amalgamating some of the lots," an engineer's letter to the council dated May 18 states.

"Many of the issues raised... related to the stormwater design and, as a result, the stormwater design was revised to eliminate the open concrete-lined drains."

The council approved the estate last Monday subject to some conditions being met, such as the updated drainage works.

The plans include two dead-end streets running up the middle of the 13 allotments from



The new Craiglie streets set to be built off Beor Street. Picture: Supplied

Beor Street. Craiglie Business Park Stage Two was originally approved back in 2007 on an about 5ha greenfields allotment on the left-hand side as you turn into the current Beor Road business estate from Captain Cook Highway.

But those plans were redrawn in 2015.

There were further changes made in 2017, the block was sold

off in 2018, and the development has been granted deadline extensions to February 2028.

The original 2007 plans included a larger block for the Paws and Claws animal shelter to move into, but that element has now been removed.

Mrs DeMenna has been approached for comment.



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Roaming performers entertained the crowds at the Taste Festival Village at the Sheraton resort on Sunday. Picture: Santiago Gonzalez

A Taste sensation for Shire

Douglas Shire experienced a taste of the spectacular on the weekend as the 10-year anniversary of the Taste festival took place across the district.

Rex Smeal Park, the Sheraton Grand Mirage Resort, the Mowbray rainforest and a host of restaurants across the region were some of the venues that more than 4000 food-and-drink lovers from across the country descend-

ed upon to experience the unique festival atmosphere.

This year's program was packed with top national and international chefs staging demonstrations and masterclasses, including Kirk Westaway (Singapore), Rishi Naleendra (Singapore), Ryan Clift (Bali), Michael Wilson (Singapore), Mindy Woods (NSW), Manu Feildel, Colin Fassnidge, Ben Williamson (Brisbane) and Jerry Mai.

Tick given for Wonga's new resort

Shaun Hollis

A multi-million dollar resort at Wonga Beach has been given "preliminary approval" by the State Government, subject to conditions including paying for major traffic works at the Mossman-Daintree Road/Wonga Beach Road turnoff and improvements to the bus loading zone.

As a huge 66-room resort and conference centre with a construction cost of about \$182m, the approval process is being done through State Government planning authorities.

Developers 18 Oasis Street have been told by planning body the State Assessment and Referral Agency, as a condition of final approval, to pay for a "full-length channelised right-turn treatment at the Mossman-Daintree Road/Wonga Beach Road intersection", including design and construction.

The approval is also contingent on including a loading zone in the roofed porch area - known as the porte cochere.

"The development must provide a private bus setdown facility in the porte cochere adjacent to the pedestrian entry of the central building," SARA states in the latest correspondence.

The six-star eco-friendly Wonga Beach Resort complex, which is expected to take 18 months to complete, will require about 370 workers during the construction



A design of the new resort.

phase. During the about construction period, the development is expected to generate more than \$160m in economic output and more than \$30m in wages and salaries.

The guest capacity is expected to be more than 200, and the plans include a restaurant, bar, pool, day spa, gym, and Indigenous Interpretive Centre at 18 Oasis Drive, Wonga Beach. Ongoing operations are projected to generate about \$50m per year, including about \$12m per year in wages and salaries for about 150 full-time-equivalent jobs.

The building has been designed by Charles Wright Architects on about 2400sq m. The resort is planned at the former sites of Oz Oasis Resort, Redbacks and Daintree Palms, with those buildings being demolished a number of years ago.

The plans have generated considerable online debate among residents since they were first released in December.



DOUGLAS 150

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Lead role for Mossy's own stage star

Mossman musical-theatre performer Angela Brischetto has made her debut in *Six the Musical* in Melbourne at the age of 20.

The former Bodies in Motion Dance School performer plays one of the six wives of King Henry VIII in the blockbuster show, the youngest of the six lead performers. BIM principal Saskia Turner says watching Brischetto's journey unfold has been incredibly rewarding since she started out at the dance school at age four.

"Seeing Angela perform professionally is something the entire dance school is immensely proud of," Turner said. "She has always been a... dedicated, humble and hardworking performer."

"To see her representing our small community on such a significant national stage is truly inspiring."



Angela Brischetto is one of the stars of *Six the Musical*. Picture: Supplied

Building Noah bridge

Shaun Hollis

Work on a new \$12m dual-lane Noah Creek Bridge is set to start after the temporary bypass was opened on Monday.

The completion of the elevated bypass, which is designed to stay above high-tide levels, has paved the way for construction of the bridge just south of Cape Tribulation. Douglas Shire Council Mayor Lisa Scomazzon said the new bridge had already undergone a trial build off site to help streamline construction - so it should be done before the end of the year.

"The project remains on track for completion in December," she said. The bridge is being funded through the Federal and State Government Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

Federal Emergency Management Minister Kristy McBain said the completion of the bypass was an important step.

"We know how important reliable access is for communities recovering from disaster," she said.

Daintree Rainforest locals will be relieved when the new bridge is open following years of lobbying.



The Noah Creek temporary bypass is done. Picture: HEH Civil



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Pacific Toyota



Different regions, different reports

From Page One

The southern side of the Daintree River has been the success story of the past month, with reports of high numbers of visitors at Cassowary Falls and on the crocodile tour boats.

Cassowary Falls guide Bruce Morwood said numbers had been strong, with morning and afternoon tours to the pristine waterfall both proving popular.

"We are the only place in the world where two world heritage-listed areas collide, being the Great Barrier Reef and the wet tropic rainforest, two of the most biodiverse ecosystems in the world, so we are extremely lucky indeed," Mr Morwood said.

"(We have) a cracker of a swim where we get to pat fish, turtles and eels, it's really cool."

In the Daintree Village, Croc Express owner Dean Clapp said his numbers had been excellent.

"Best year since Covid," Mr Clapp said.

"It's taken a long time to get back to this stage.

"In general there are more people travelling.

"I travel a lot and it's certainly



Cassowary Falls tour guides Katja Petrovic and Marisabel Beretta at the property. Picture: Shaun Hollis

way up on what it has been." One added positive was the return last week of much-loved croc tour operator Solar Whisper, whose boat was swept away when the river flooded in late March.

Business owner David White raised more than \$100,000 during a GoFundMe campaign to get back on the water doing what he loves.

"Thank you to the incredible generosity of the community far and wide, we are back," Mr White said last week.

In Port Douglas, Macrossan Street has been packed across the past month and operators and resort managers are reporting a steady trade - not setting any records, but not the worst season either, they said.

Windswell owner/operator Brett Wright said the season so far was "more quality than quantity."

"It's not as busy as other seasons but we are still doing alright," he said.

His Mossman River tours have

been operating every day and there were also "busloads going north", which was a real bonus for those operators who had suffered at the start of the year with the flooding and loss of the ferry, he said.

"Last summer was an unprecedented low," Mr Wright said.

Across the river, operators are still trying to balance the books after the ferry was offline for a month, and now roadworks in preparation for the new ferry next year have been causing some high-season frustrations.

One operator told Newsport the worksite was a "circus" that had "cost myself and many others a fortune".

"They could have designed the workflow so that the priority lane was unaffected in the six busiest weeks, but no. It does not have to be ready until late 2027," they said.

"If they do the northside next year in July it will be chaos."

Douglas Shire Council, however, said last week roadworks were "progressing well".

"The project remains on track for completion by the end of October," a DSC spokesman stated.

PROPOSED PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE

Attention is directed to an application for Permanent Road Closure of an area of about 1470m² being part of Mowbray River Road, abutting Lot 3 on SP229627 (locality Mowbray) and shown as Road Proposed to be Permanently Closed (A) on Drawing LAG15-2316.

Comments or objections to the application must be submitted no later than 17 September 2026, in writing to the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development Robina Office (PO Box 4297, Robina Town Centre QLD 4230) or online at the Queensland Government's website at 'Current Road Closure Applications': www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/state/roads.

Members of the public interested in the proposed road closure can apply under the Right to Information Act 2009 (RTI Act) to access any comments/objections received.

If you lodge comments or an objection, please include in your comments/objection advice whether you would like to be consulted if this issue becomes the subject of an access application under the RTI Act.

For further details and to view a copy of the drawing, contact the Department on (07) 3096 6243 quoting reference number 2026/001348 or view the application online on the Queensland Government's website at 'Current Road Closure Applications': www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/state/roads

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Future business a dead certainty

Shaun Hollis

The funeral parlour on Sawmill Street in Mossman is aiming to expand.

Mossman and Port Douglas Community Funerals owner Propel Funeral Partners - a large company with parlours across Australia and New Zealand - has bought the former vet property at the back of the centre on Theresa Drive in order to consolidate operations at the site.

"The existing mortuary and body storage functions currently undertaken at the Sawmill Street premises will be relocated to the Theresa Drive site," according to plans lodged with Douglas Shire Council.

"The new facility will become the principal operational base for Mossman and Port Douglas Community Funerals.

"The existing Sawmill Street property will continue to operate in conjunction with the funeral business, however, its role will be focused on cremation-related activities."

As part of the development, the shed currently at the Theresa Drive site is set to be retained, but new balconies and other additions will be added.

"The proposal does not seek to expand the scale of the existing business," the plans state. "Rather, it seeks to separate funeral administration and family facing activities from the cremation related



The Sawmill Road funeral parlour (top) has bought the shed out the back with a view to expand. Pictures: Shaun Hollis

operations. On the day of a funeral service, the hearse will travel from the Sawmill Road premises to the Theresa Drive facility, where the coffin will be loaded prior to proceeding to the funeral service lo-

cation, such as a church, chapel or cemetery. Following completion of the service, where cremation is required, the deceased will be transported to the Sawmill Road premises."

News in Brief

VETERANS HONOURED

Vietnam Veterans' Day will be commemorated this Tuesday at RSLs and other memorials across the country, including in Mossman.

The day is held on August 18 each year on the anniversary of the Battle of Long Tan, which took place in the Vietnam War in 1966.

The day honours the Vietnam Veterans' contributions towards Australia's defence forces.

A service will be held near the mural on the grounds outside the Mossman Sub Branch from about 11am-3pm at 28 Johnston Road in Mossman.

PARK MAKES SPLASH

The Port Douglas Splash Park has been named Queensland's best new major play space by industry group representative body Parks and Leisure Australia.

The new attraction, which was completed by Douglas Shire Council last year near Four Mile Beach, won the award for best project costing more than \$1m, recognising the excellence and innovation of the design.

The project is now a finalist in the Parks and Leisure Australia National Awards in December, where it will compete against three other projects from interstate.

CHOPPER BASE BUILD

Construction is starting on the new \$4m Nautilus helicopter base in Port Douglas.

Nautilus Aviation's new home will include landing pads, hangar and offices on a close-to-5000sq m site at 35-39 Port Street near Dickson's Inlet.

Once completed, the choppers are set to take off and come in to land across the water from two purpose-built landing pads.

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Locals hang tough at Miss Muddy

THE Miss Muddy Cairns took place last weekend with a group of 17 committed girls from the Douglas Shire taking up the challenge.

Miss Muddy takes place at different locations all across Australia and is a grueling 5km female-only obstacle-course event.

The Douglas Dirty Divas spent last Saturday climbing, crawling slipping and sliding their way through mud to help raise awareness for the McGrath Foundation and, in particular, the Breast Care Nurses in communities nationwide.

Mossman's IMT and Port Pilates Plus in Port Douglas helped sponsor the event.

The business supplied the girls with their own commando-style singlets and have so far helped the team raise almost \$700.

Douglas Dirty Divas team members were:

Melissa Mussett, Alyson Fitz-



The Douglas Dirty Divas took part in the Miss Muddy Cairns event. Picture: Supplied

gerald, Elle Brown, Jamayah McGinty, Jayde Neil, Jo Radley, Julie Salam, Kerry Bower-Miles, Meagan Cameron, Michelle Vladich,

Sam Fielden, Summer Walford, Tess Glass, Tracey Saxon, Yvette Hasting Le Griffon, Jodi Francis and Gail Croft.



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One of the cars being rescued from the Daintree River. Picture: Toxi's Creb Track Recovery

CREB STACK: cars sunk

Shaun Hollis
Up to half a dozen cars have had to be rescued from the middle of the Daintree River at the start of the Creb Track in the past few weeks, Daintree Village locals say.

This includes at least one family that ended up wading through waters known to be the home of a large crocodile, Newport understands.

Creb Track rescue specialist Tony "Toxi" Bartels last week called for the Douglas Shire Council to install more signage and depth markers at the crossing, which does not go straight across, but bends downriver in the middle.

"(There has been) more recoveries and rescues in two weeks than we've probably had in two

years," he told ABC radio last week.

"If you go straight ahead it's just a big hole.

"Before you know it there is no car, you're underwater."

The four-wheel-drive track from Daintree Village heading north to Wujal Wujal was officially opened for the season late last month after delays caused by unseasonal rain and repairs from damage sustained across the wet season.

But the river level has still been high following persistent rains, making the crossing more problematic.

Council workers dredged out the crossing in early June in preparation for expected improving weather.

The opening of the world-famous about 70km-long four-wheel-drive track was delayed close to two months past last year's opening, which took place in June.

The Creb, which crosses the Bloomfield River, Donovan's Creek, and Roaring Meg Creek, is considered one of the most challenging and picturesque four-wheel-drive tracks in the country.

The name "Creb" stands for Cairns Regional Electricity Board - it was originally the service track for the old powerline to Cooktown.

The DSC did not respond to requests for comment.

Inquiry about mobile phone range access

The chances of improving the phone coverage in Far North Queensland have increased after Australia's consumer watchdog last week launched an inquiry into mobile roaming.

The year-long Australian Competition and Consumer Commission inquiry will "examine regional mobile coverage across Australia" to work out if mobile providers will be made to give other providers access to their phone networks if the signal is too weak on your own service. This has major implications for phone users in regions such as FNQ who choose to pay more for some service providers because their coverage is better.

ACCC Commissioner Anna Brakey said there were growing calls for intervention to regulate wholesale mobile services, particularly in regional areas.

"The ACCC recognises the importance of mobile coverage, provider choice and network reliability, particularly for people living, working and travelling in regional areas," Commissioner Brakey said.

"Consumers expect and need affordable, reliable and high-quality services. Businesses and investors need confidence to make efficient investments."

Both Europe and North America have domestic roaming, where a mobile phone will automatically connect to another provider when the signal is too weak.

The inquiry will consider issues such as how mobile coverage and consumer needs are whether phone users have meaningful choice between mobile providers.

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Cosmos sets bar high with menu

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

Cosmos on Grant Street has not only launched a major new drinks menu, raising the bar for local cocktails, it has also elevated its food game to evolve from a popular dart lounge into a true dining destination.

Behind the bar, mixologist Alex Karimnia has introduced a fresh round of inventive creations alongside beloved staples like the sub-zero Minus 40° Martinis and the signature Cosmic Cosmo.

The new menu features stand-outs like the pandan-infused Silk Road Highball, the Coral Cay Market Punch made with Port Douglas Sunday market fruit, the dessert-inspired Sunset Meringue, and the showstopping Curtain Call, a Wagyu fat-washed scotch cocktail paired with a PX jam donut bite.

Fans of the venue will also be glad to know the iconic "Bullseye" cocktail spheres are here to stay, those delicate, flavour-packed molecular shots made from scratch daily and served right off the spoon.



Mixologist Alex Karimnia has launched a fresh cocktail lineup featuring inventive new creations, like a market-fruit punch and a Wagyu-scotch highball, alongside signature venue staples. Picture: Leandro Furlanetto

A handpicked wine list rounds out the drinks program, thoughtfully chosen to pair with what's coming out of the kitchen.

Elevated eats

The food certainly holds its

own as well. The culinary evolution is led by head chef Alberto, whose Madrid upbringing and Le Cordon Bleu training shine through a modern tapas menu defined as Mediterranean cuisine

with global influences. Designed to showcase local tropical ingredients with high-level technique, the offerings range from traditional Spanish croquetas and Argentinian empanadas to fresh kingfish crudo, truffle tartare, and charred pork belly skewers.

Guests can soak it all in on the newly opened outdoor deck, one of the few alfresco dining spots in town for balmy evenings, or settle into the moody, plush booths inside.

With late-night dining until 10.30pm on weekdays and 11.30pm on weekends, Cosmos has officially perfected the complete night out.

Check out the drink and the food menu's here: cosmospd.com.au/menu.



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Tropico community lands at Macrossan

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

For long-time Port Douglas local Valentina Bertoli, Macrossan Street's newest storefront is all about celebrating community, local talent, and a touch of authentic Italian heritage.

Her newly opened shop, Tropico, was born out of a desire to create a permanent home for the region's thriving creative scene, bringing together local artisans, custom-made goods, and specialty items under one roof.

Inspired by Port Douglas's iconic Sunday markets, Valentina wanted to give local creatives a permanent home beyond the weekend, creating a space where both locals and travelers can access handmade regional goods throughout the week.

Step inside, and the shelves reflect a rich, hand-picked tapestry of the region. The shop stocks everything from local honey, chocolates, craft gins, wines, and artisanal ice cream from the Atherton Tablelands to homewares, handmade toys, and accessories.

"Working directly with local makers creates a genuine community connection, rather than ordering stock online from a big supplier," Valentina says.

Adding a distinct personal touch, the store also weaves in a nod to Valentina's roots through



Tropico owner Valentina Bertoli with Angela, who crafts and tailors custom homewares in the store. Picture: Jamie Jansen

imported Italian ceramics. Tropico partners directly with a family-run business in Tuscany and Sicily to import traditional ceramic plates, olive oil bottles, and decorative pieces like Sicilian Moorish Heads and Pigna lamps.

Beyond browsing the shelves, visitors can get creative at the in-house customisation lab, which offers custom printing on t-shirts, tote bags, and mugs, customers can even bring in their own items to personalise.

Team member Angela also brings her tailoring skills to the shop, crafting custom table runners, headbands, and cushions, with the ability to tailor pieces

on the spot. Designed with busy families in mind, the shop even features a dedicated kids' corner complete with drawing materials, so parents can take their time browsing while little ones stay entertained.

"We want it to feel welcoming, family-friendly, and deeply tied to the local community," Valentina says.



To read the full story scan this QR code

Want to showcase your business with a business feature? Please contact feature editor jamie@newsport.com.au

Budget-friendly menu options out at Oaks

BUSINESS FEATURE

Jamie Jansen

Anyone looking to shake up their dining routine in Port Douglas has a great reason to head over to Oak & Vine Restaurant, where a new lineup of budget-friendly daily specials is making a night out easier and more affordable for locals and visitors alike.

Nestled inside Oaks Port Douglas Resort, the relaxed, poolside venue is firmly cementing its spot as a go-to tropical hangout.

The new daily specials run alongside the restaurant's regular à la carte menu through to November 30, offering discounted meals, pairing deals, and casual bar bites throughout the week.

To make an evening out even easier, Oak & Vine is also offering a complimentary door-to-door shuttle service for residents.

Simply book your table in advance, and the resort will pick you up right from your front door and drop you home safely after dinner, taking parking hassles and designated driver duties completely off the table.

To view the full menu, check daily specials, or reserve your table with complimentary transfer, visit the Oak & Vine website.



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YOU SAID IT! Opinion Page

BUDGE THE DOG FOUND AFTER DAYS OF BEING LOST IN BUSH

Stacey Stephens

I love happy endings!!!! My Jackson survived after falling in a croc-infested flooded creek last year. I thought he was gone... but he pulled himself out halfway before the big one at salt water bridge.

Neil Calhoun

Reminds me of the story of a guy named John Rambo.

Nicholas Wilkinson

He looks way too wise for a croc to take him, there's too much FNQ street smart in that boy.

Lee Nicole

Reading this makes me so happy! You must have been beside yourself. Glad Budge has her Mum back.

Jenni Walker

Best moment of the week.

Solar Whisper Daintree River Crocodile & Wildlife Cruises

So happy this little one was found, like everyone around here we were all keeping an eye out.

Kerry Muller

What a great result... you never gave up.

SHEPPARD'S AUSTRALIAN RECORD SUCCESS IN GLASGOW

Jan Buchanan

An Australian record - that's brilliant. Well done Matt.

Selina Maffey

Congratulations Matt. Awesome achievement.

Ives Mensland Mossman

Congratulations very proud of you.

Jason Ablett

Well done Matty.

Patricia Hutton

Well done Matt you're amazing.

Cathy Maloney

Great determination Matt!

Tilly Dwyer

Good on yah Matt, Australia is proud of you.

Karryn Hancock

Good on ya, you did our country proud and what a buzz hey. Lap it up, as I'm sure you are.

SHIRE HOUSE PRICES UPS AND DOWNS

Susan Attwood

That's great, some of the young ones can now buy.

Nort Weir

Don't know about those figures. My house is up 100k from 2 years ago and units are up 7 per cent YoY. Hence why so many are for sale.

Ian Locke

Great keep dropping!!

Catherine Roseman

Apartments have come down in price. So many for sales especially in resorts.

Neil Jabs

Great to see property prices correct downwards. However just mere months when ALL of Douglas Shire Council Land Valuations have escalated to massive highs we now have to pay new increased rates in a declining market trend. Go figure that one out folks. More money for DSC at ratepayers' expense. Not good during our cost of living crisis and total loss of our entire sugar industry.

Ali Tatt

Rents need to come down now.



From the Holster



Shaun Hollis brings you a lighter look at local news.

NEW CANCER CARE HUB IN CAIRNS SET TO MAKE BIG DIFFERENCE

Micko More

Good luck if you can get in... waiting times are horrific to see a specialist... you'll be looking at years if at all... Save Australia from Labor and mass migration that's overwhelmed our hospitals and left our citizens homeless.

David Haratsis

Imagine if you don't have a car! You're f****d.

Dianne Harper

David Haratsis exactly no bus service! Been there, it was tourist bus travel drop-off or pick-ups on the way and me with a spew bag!

CREB STACK: MANY CARS BEING RESCUED FROM DAINTREE RIVER

Sammy Keats

I was out there yesterday 'n' was suprised how much it had

changed from the last time I was out here, there's been some pretty good floods out here.

Jack Peterson

If you can't even cross the river you are going to struggle with the track proper.

Gavin Marley

Let them keep piling up, turn them sideways and side by side, bang you got yourself a bridge to drive over.

Jeff Ryan

Wow, it's not that hard to see where the shallow water and crossing actually is.

Warren O'Rourke

Good for the local towies.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Send your letters and comments to editor@newsport.com.au or post comments on our Facebook and Instagram pages.

POSITIONS VACANT



QUALIFIED MECHANIC

Mossman Mechanical is looking for a qualified Light Vehicle Mechanic (or equivalent) with a manual driver's licence, strong diagnostic skills, a reliable and motivated attitude.

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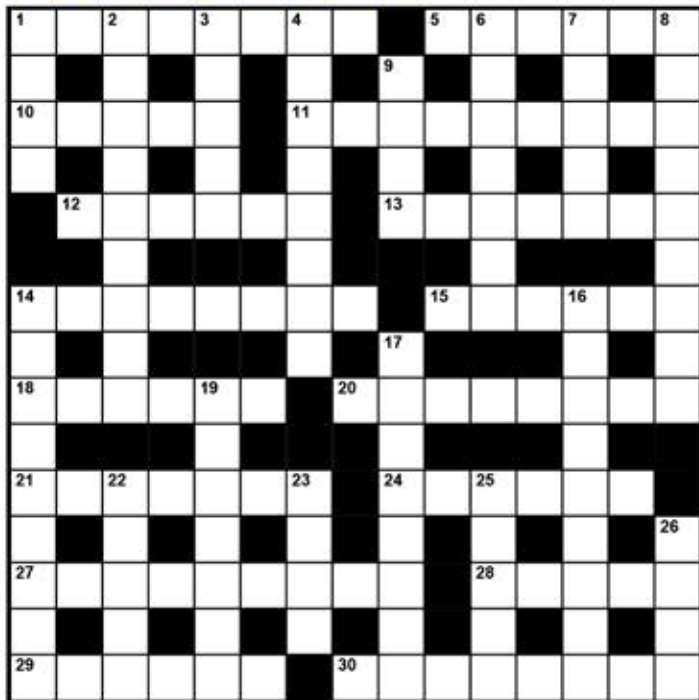
EVERY TUESDAY & 1st and 3rd SATURDAY of the month from 8 to 9 am

Gather knowledge

Let's grow together!

Let's grow together!

Mossman Community Garden



ACROSS

- 1 Distressed due to being away from residence (8)
- 5 Involve (6)
- 10 Components (5)
- 11 Beatles song, - Wood (9)
- 12 Polynesian island (6)
- 13 English musician, Phil - (7)
- 14 Lively (8)
- 15 Respiratory disorder (6)
- 18 Scattered (6)
- 20 Fish that swims in an upright posture (8)

DOWN

- 1 Pelvic region (4)
- 2 Cocktail containing tequila and citrus juice (9)
- 3 Japanese dish (5)
- 4 Think about (8)
- 6 Mildly irritates (7)
- 7 Evidence of being elsewhere (5)
- 8 Visible features of an area (9)

- 21 Organ (7)
- 24 Long, narrow strip of fabric (6)
- 27 At the beginning (9)
- 28 Show mirth (5)
- 29 Sound system (6)
- 30 Turkish symbol (8)
- 9 Reptile of NT waters, briefly (4)
- 14 Hired killers (9)
- 16 Produce pleasing combination (9)
- 17 One who exposes another (8)
- 19 Holiday destination (7)
- 22 Oily fruit (5)
- 23 High ground (4)
- 25 Foundation (5)
- 26 Relish (4)

SOLUTIONS

pagemasters 13-08-26

Quick Crossword



Word Find Message:

Try out a tropical state of mind

Sudoku

7	8	6	1	9	4	3	5	2
9	5	3	6	7	2	1	8	4
4	2	1	8	5	3	6	9	7
1	4	5	2	8	6	9	7	3
3	6	2	7	1	9	5	4	8
6	7	4	5	3	1	8	2	9
5	1	8	9	2	7	4	3	6
2	3	9	4	6	8	7	1	5

9-Letter

surfing, unfair, SURFACING, scurf, snafu, surf, scarf, scarfing, fusing, infra, nail, franc, frug, fungi, fang, faun, frag, fang, farding, fang, fardng, fading, fain, fair,

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SUDOKU

No. 002

	3							
5		8	9	2				
		4			1		2	
3					9			8
	4	5	2		6	9	7	
8			3					1
	2		8			6		
				7	2	1		4
							5	

9-LETTER

No. 002

Using the nine letters in the grid, how many words of four letters or more can you list? The centre letter must be included and each letter may only be used once. No colloquial or foreign words. No capitalised nouns, apostrophes or plural nouns ending in 's'.



Today's Aim:

12 words: Good
15 words: Very good
21+ words: Excellent

WORD FIND

THEME: Tropical countries

The remaining letters will spell out a message.

T	E	A	I	V	I	L	O	B	B	E	L	I	Z	E
R	Y	U	O	A	I	B	M	A	G	U	I	L	A	M
T	A	T	Q	R	O	E	P	R	W	A	N	D	A	L
A	I	D	N	I	I	T	I	A	H	S	C	E	A	
N	I	G	E	R	N	K	E	N	Y	A	U	A	L	O
C	A	Y	M	A	N	I	S	L	A	N	D	S	S	
O	U	R	E	P	L	S	T	T	A	M	A	M	A	
N	B	C	J	L	I	Z	A	R	B	C	N	A	L	F
G	R	U	H	A	N	G	O	L	A	O	A	L	V	A
O	U	B	S	A	M	A	H	A	B	M	E	A	A	N
C	N	A	T	A	D	A	T	O	G	O	R	Y	D	I
I	E	A	I	R	E	B	I	L	E	R	T	S	O	K
X	I	O	B	U	R	M	A	C	F	O	I	I	R	R
E	B	A	R	B	A	D	O	S	A	S	R	A	M	U
M	I	G	U	A	D	E	L	O	U	P	E	N	D	B

ANGOLA	GUADELOUPE
ARUBA	HAITI
BAHAMAS	INDIA
BARBADOS	JAMAICA
BELIZE	KENYA
BOLIVIA	LAOS
BRAZIL	LIBERIA
BRUNEI	MALAYSIA
BURKINA FASO	MALI
BURMA	MARTINIQUE
CAYMAN ISLANDS	MEXICO
CHAD	NIGER
COMOROS	PERU
CONGO	RWANDA
CUBA	SUDAN
EL SALVADOR	TOGO
ERITREA	VIETNAM
GAMBIA	

Your next challenge?
Hitting the bullseye
See you at

COSMOS
COCKTAIL LOUNGE



SCAN TO BOOK



SOCIALS

Douglas Shire markets have been buzzing lately with an influx of travellers in town, while the Taste food and drink festival was a hit across the district. Pictures: Santiago Gonzalez



Saalia Maestrom & Lilli Zeissler at the Port Douglas Sunday market.



Emily Pagel & Samuel Stacey at the Sunday market.



Amy Mack, chef Manu Feildel, Jane Hyland and Jerry Mai at the Taste festival.



Maria Blanca García, Andrea García Solís, Brenda Ortega and Amparo Puchades at the Sunday market.



Tracey and Andrew Barns at the Taste festival.



Bianca Todorov and Bambi Titan at the Taste festival.

WHAT'S ON

- AUG 14** Tullara
Time: 5.30pm-8.30pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill
- AUG 14** Bingo Night
Time: 6.30pm-8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas
- AUG 14** Dave Dusch
Time: 7.30pm-10.30pm
Location: Club Mossman
- AUG 15** Food Gardening At Circle Of Plenty
Time: 8am-10am
Location: Circle of Plenty, Mossman Botanic Garden, Mossman
- AUG 16** Nicole Nighthawk
Time: 1pm-4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill
- AUG 18** Indonesian Night
Time: 5pm-8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas
- AUG 19** Marina Markets
Time: 11am-5pm
Location: Crystalbrooke Marina, Wharf Street Port Douglas

- AUG 20** Trivia Night
Time: 6.30pm-8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas
- AUG 20** Bingo with K-Star
Time: 7pm-8.30pm
Location: Club Mossman
- AUG 21** Bingo Night
Time: 6.30pm-8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas
- AUG 21** Salmonella Dub Soundsystem
Time: 6pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill
- AUG 21** Geoff Black
Time: 7.30pm-10.30pm
Location: Club Mossman
- AUG 22** The Hardway Festival
Time: 12pm-4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill
- AUG 23** Robert Longstaff
Time: 1pm-4pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar and Grill

- AUG 25** Indonesian Night
Time: 5pm-8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas
- AUG 26** Marina Markets
Time: 11am-5pm
Location: Crystalbrooke Marina, Wharf Street Port Douglas
- AUG 26** Reef to Rainforest Dining Experience
Time: 5pm - 8.30pm
Location: Four Mile Beach
- AUG 27** Trivia Night
Time: 6.30pm-8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas
- AUG 27** Trivia with Supa Sal and Wevs
Time: 7pm-9.30pm
Location: Club Mossman
- AUG 27** Tiffany Grace - Ripples in Time Tour 2026
Time: 6pm-10pm
Location: Ellis Beach Bar & Grill
- AUG 28** Bingo Night
Time: 6.30pm-8pm
Location: 3Sixteen Bar & Bistro at Ramada Resort, Port Douglas



Picture: Pullman Sea Temple

Visit www.newsport.com.au to list your event for free

SPORTS DIGEST

BRIEFS

LAWN BOWLS

Jackpot Bowls winners: Peter McGrory, Terry Richards and Charlie Toohey W+6, Mat Piper and Jason Pearce W+6, John Arnold, Daryl Hoskin and David Turnbull W+15 and winners on the day Keith Bunge, Peter Harding and SAS Brian Williams W+16. Bill Allison and Mike Sims played in the District Champion of Club Champions Pairs play-offs at Yungaburra.

Results from August 8.

Jackpot Bowls winners Jimmy Wong, Ted Holmes and Col Widdows W+2, Bernie Wolland, Greg Smith and Mike Sims W+5, Grant Girle, Wayne Parkes and Eric Smith W+7 and winners on the day Peter McGrory, Warren McCoist and Steve Fuller W+22. Handicap singles on Sunday Col Widdows defeated SAS Brian Williams 25-19.

Malachy McTaggart was part of the team that won the Weipa Classic on the weekend. This weekend (August 14-16) is Sugar Festival.

SOCCER

Douglas United lost to Innisfail 3-2 in Cairns on Friday night, with Daniele Cirani scoring both goals.

Innisfail scored in extra time to seal the win after the Dragons had led twice throughout the match.

This Friday night United is scheduled to be back home against Leichhardt from 8.30pm.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Mossman finished off a disappointing season with a 20-58 home loss to Innisfail on Sunday.

Try scorers were Zaimen Gilbert, Logan Yeatman, Benjamin Barba and Alan Ingui.

Crocs tear into Tigers



Kye Chapple, who celebrated his 1200th career goal last week, kicked six goals.

Shaun Hollis

The undefeated Port Douglas Crocs gave the reigning premiers a mighty 36-goal walloping on the weekend to further enhance their credentials as this year's firm flag favourite.

Port finished the game 35.13 (223) to North Cairns 1.6 (12), running out an incredible 211-point winners against the top team of

2025. Sam Fairclough, Tom Cantwell, Ben McPhee, Brodie Francis, Shay Linke and Jack Ganley were named best, with Linke kicking seven goals, Kye Chapple six and Ganley five.

In the women's match, the Crocs were no match for the Tigers, going down by 77 points, 0.1 (1) to 12.6 (78). The Port Douglas teams have a bye this weekend.



Cooya athlete Matt Sheppard has thrown an Australian record at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. Picture: Athletics North Queensland

Sheppard in an Oz record performance

Bryan Littlely

Cooya athlete Matt Sheppard has thrown an Australian record 10.29m to finish 7th in the Men's Shot Put F57 final at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow.

In the biggest meet of his life, and with his family in Glasgow to see him compete, Sheppard excelled on the international stage.

The competition was dominated by Indian athletes Rana Soman (Gold) and Juyal Shubham (Silver) with huge throws of 13.40m and 13.28m respectively.

The Bronze went to Lekezo Azamdzi Cedric Idriss of Cameroon with a put of 12.57m. All three on the podium were more than 1.5m out in front of the rest of the field. Sheppard was told to make the Australian Commonwealth Games team he would need to be ranked in the top seven in the world, with his performance in Glasgow standing strong.

★ **TERM 3** ★
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Mossman & District Gymnastics Club

GYM STARS
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MONDAY
3:30 - 4:30 pm

GYM ROCKETS
Ages 8-9
MONDAY & THURSDAY
3:30 - 4:30 pm

GYM JETS
Ages 10+
MONDAY
4:30 - 5:30 pm

AERIAL SILKS
Pre-teens Ages 8-9
WEDNESDAY
5:30 - 6:15 pm

AERIAL SILKS
Teens Ages 10+
WEDNESDAY
6:15 - 7:15 pm

Enrol now for Term 3!

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SANDO STRIKES SILVER



Young Mossman motorbike rider Sandon Kerswell has won a major category in the Red Bull Romaniacs hard enduro event in Europe. Picture: Supplied

Shaun Hollis

He wrote in his race bio that his main goal for the Red Bull Romaniacs hard endurance motocross rally was to "finish", but young gun Sandon "Sando" Kerswell ended up winning his class by an hour and a half.

A self-confessed "bushbasher from Oz", Sando, 18, of Mossman, walked away with first place in the hard enduro silver class category wearing bib number 138, helping to put his name forward

as a rider to watch out for from now on.

The race, which included four stages run from July 28 to August 1 through the Carpathian Mountains in Romania, is billed as the event where adventure motorcyclists come from across the world to compete at "some of the most spectacular and demanding adventure rally terrain on the planet".

Sando finished the race a full 90 minutes ahead of every else in his category to post a command-

ing win. He says he is now aiming to qualify for the gold class, which features the 20 or so best hard enduro riders in the world.

"It's pretty unreal, it hasn't sunk in yet," he says of his win.

"I was just aiming to get to the finish line."

Sando says he put in a lot of training to take on the event, which covers some of the most adventurous motorbike-riding terrain in the world.

"It's a dream come true," he says.



The district carnival on the weekend. Picture: PDSLSC

Spectacular days at Four Mile Beach

The second North Queensland Life Saving Surf Sports Season carnival took place at Four Mile Beach on the weekend, with athletes setting a high standard of competition.

Close to 200 competitors from Noosa to Port Douglas hit the beach in idyllic conditions.

The signature event was the Steve Pollard Masters Mixed Double Ski, with athletes competing in honour of the former club president, who regularly trained on his beloved Four Mile Beach.

The close finish saw Nigel Harris and Tony Hannan from Cairns SLSC taking victory.

Hannan, the Cairns club president, said it was "an honour to win such a coveted title" as they were handed the shield from defending title holder, Port Douglas SLSC club captain John Goodman.

Cairns took out the overall club point score, with Ellis Beach and Port Douglas in a close finish for second after a strong showing by the host club.

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